Emory Public Lecture

Ken Ono

Asa Griggs Candler
Professor of Mathematics
Emory University

Adding & Counting

January 21, 2011

21 = 8+5+3+2+2+1

8:00 pm **Emory Public Lecture**
Presentation Room
Oxford Road Building

9:00pm Reception
Atrium
Mathematics & Science Center

One easily sees that

4 = 3+1 = 2+2 = 2+1+1 = 1+1+1+1,

and so we say that there are 5 partitions of 4. The stuff of partitions seems like mere child's play. Professor Ono will explain how the simple task of adding and counting has fascinated many of the world's leading mathematicians: Euler, Ramanujan, Hardy, Rademacher, to name just a few. As is typical in number theory, many of the most fundamental (and simple to state) questions have remained unsolved. In 2010, Ono, with the support of the American Institute for Mathematics and the National Science Foundation, assembled an international team of distinguished researchers to attack some of these problems. He will announce their findings: new theories which solve some of these famous old questions.